

**I CLAIM:**

1. A height adjustable armrest assembly for a chair, comprising:

5           a support unit including a lower part defining a lower chamber, and an upper part that defines an upper chamber therein, that is movable relative to said lower part, and that has an abutting member disposed within said upper chamber and subdividing said upper chamber into an upper portion and a lower portion;

10           an armrest mounted on said upper part so as to be movable together therewith;

15           a cylinder-and-piston unit including a cylinder that extends into said lower portion of said upper chamber to abut against said abutting member and that has opposite upper and lower ends, a piston mounted securely in said lower chamber and telescopically extending into said lower end of said cylinder, and a locking member including a spring-biased button projecting upwardly from said upper end of said cylinder, extending through said abutting member and into said upper portion of said upper chamber and pressible to move between a locked position, in which, said cylinder is locked by said locking member against axial movement relative to said piston, and an unlocked position, in which, said cylinder is released by said locking member

so as to be axially movable relative to said piston;  
and

a control knob mounted movably on said upper part  
of said support unit, engaging said button, and  
operable so as to move said button from said locked  
position to said unlocked position.

- 5           2. The height adjustable armrest assembly as defined  
              in Claim 1, wherein said cylinder-and-piston  
              assembly is pneumatically operated.
- 10          3. The height adjustable armrest assembly as defined  
              in Claim 1, wherein said upper part includes a  
              peripheral wall that defines said upper chamber and  
              that is formed with a knob-retention slot which is  
              in spatial communication with said upper portion  
              15        of said upper chamber and which receives said  
              control knob therein, said cylinder-and-piston  
              assembly further including a lever-holding seat  
              disposed within said upper portion of said upper  
              chamber in said upper part and having a bottom  
              portion that is seated on said abutting member and  
              that is formed a bottom hole to permit extension  
              20        of said button therethrough, and two parallel  
              portions extending from two opposite sides of said  
              bottom portion, and an actuating lever pivoted to  
              25        said parallel portions of said lever-holding seat  
              and having opposite ends respectively in contact  
              with said button and said control knob in such a

manner that movement of said control knob to an upper position along said knob-retention slot results in turning of said actuating lever in a first direction, which, in turn, forces said button to said unlocked position, and that movement of said control knob to a lower position along said slot results in turning said actuating lever in a second direction opposite to said first direction and restoring of said button to said locked position.